

March 3, 2016

**Opposition to HB 5408  
An Act Concerning the Presentation of a Carry Permit**

Gentlemen of the Public Safety and Security Committee,

I OPPOSE HB 5408. This bill allows police officers to arbitrarily stop persons and demand to see a "Carry Permit" in the absence of any cause or suspicion.

This bill is badly flawed in assuming any person carrying a handgun is automatically a criminal or potential criminal. This is an unreasonable harassment of gun owners, a massive expansion of police powers, and would not be tolerated by ordinary drivers in their cars if asked for their licenses.

In large urban centers like Hartford and Bridgeport, police officers should continue to use reasonable judgement of suspicious activity, where warranted, to question citizens.

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